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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/579,731	05/17/2006	Kazumichi Uotani	0171-1273PUS1	8869

2292 7590 05/02/2008  
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH  
PO BOX 747  
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER
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AUDET, MAURY A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1654

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/02/2008

ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
10579731	5/17/06	UOTANI ET AL.	0171-1273PUS1

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**EXAMINER**

MAURY AUDET

ART UNIT	PAPER
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1654	20080428
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DATE MAILED:

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner for Patents**

The reply filed on 12/5/07 is acknowledged, and the Examiner is willing to search the full scope of the claims, notwithstanding Applicant's addition of subject matter which was never part of the originally filed claimset.

However, before the full scope of the claims can be properly searched, the Examiner requests clarification of two terms from claim 8, claimed as "food products" for which a definition of either could not be found: 1) "swallowing assistant" and 2) "gummi". In order to conduct a reasonable search, Applicant is asked to either point out where in the specification the Examiner may have overlooked the definition of the above, or provide the definition contemplated, which would be the art-accepted meaning of these terms, such that a reasonable search of the invention may be undertaken, in the interests of compact prosecution.

Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

**Conclusion**

No claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maury Audet whose telephone number is 571-272-0960. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th. 7AM-5:30PM (10 Hrs.).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cecilia Tsang can be reached on 571-272-0562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MA, 10/29/2007

